

SENATE BILL 2173

By Kelsey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68
and Title 71, relative to prenatal care.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 1, Part 9, is amended by
adding the following as a new section thereto:

68-1-905.

(a) For purposes of this section, unless the context requires otherwise,
“prenatal or maternity care visit” means a pregnancy-related service provided to
a pregnant woman.

(b) As a pilot project which shall begin in 2013 and last until 2018, the
department of health shall:

(1) Identify, in counties having a population of not less than nine
hundred thousand (900,000), according to the 2010 federal census, or
any subsequent federal census, the three (3) zip codes with the highest
infant mortality rate; and

(2) Pay, to each pregnant woman who is currently enrolled in
TennCare and who resides in a zip code identified under subdivision
(b)(1), fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each prenatal or maternity care visit that
the woman attends, subject to the limitations in subsection (c).

(c) Payments under subsection (b) shall be limited to: one (1) office visit
for each four (4) weeks for the first twenty-eight (28) weeks of pregnancy; one (1)
office visit for each two (2) weeks for weeks twenty-nine (29) through thirty-six
(36) of pregnancy; and one (1) visit for each week thereafter.

(d) On or before February 1, 2018, the commissioner shall file a report with the chair of the general welfare, health and human resources committee of the senate, and the chair of the health and human resources committee of the house of representatives that includes the following:

- (1) The number of pregnant women served in each zip code identified under subdivision (b)(1) for each year of the pilot project;
- (2) The infant mortality rate in each zip code identified under subdivision (b)(1) for one (1) year preceding the pilot project and for each year of operation of the pilot project;
- (3) The average cost of the services and payments made under the pilot project each year; and
- (4) An overall statement of the achievements and progress of the pilot project, along with recommendations for improvement or expansion.

SECTION 2. The commissioner of health is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

SECTION 3. For purposes of promulgating rules and regulations, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it; for all other purposes, this act shall take effect January 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it.